Thomas A. Edison Papers Digital Edition

Edison-Miller Family Records

Edison-Ford Winter Estates, Fort Myers, Fla.

[X104R-F] Miller, Theodore Westwood

Edison-Miller Family Papers

Title

[X104R-F] Miller, Theodore Westwood

Description

These documents, which cover the years 1891-1898, consist of correspondence from Edison's brother-in-law Theodore W. Miller (1875-1898) to his parents Lewis and Mary Valinda Miller. A few of the letters pertain to visits to the Edison home in West Orange. Included is a long description of an Easter party held at Glenmont in March 1894. Also included are three letters, written in April-May 1898, discussing Theodore's reaction to the sinking of the USS *Maine* and his decision to enter the army at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. A biography of Miller, including selections from his diary, can be found in *Theodore W. Miller: Rough Rider* (Akron, 1899), Google Books.

Fourteen additional letters by Theodore W. Miller have not been selected. Seven letters, most of which are undated, were written while Theodore and his older brother John were attending St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, 1891-1893. Some of these letters contain brief comments about Thomas A. Edison, Jr., and his brother William, who were attending St. Paul's at the same time. An undated letter, probably from 1893, notes that "William seems quite well and contented and they say Tom [who dropped out of St. Paul's in January 1893] is coming back Easter." Most of the remaining letters were written during Theodore's first year at Yale University, 1893-1894.

One letter, relating to an 1894 Easter party at Glenmont, was added in August 2012.

URL

https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/folder/X104R-F

Identifier

X104R-F

Alternative Title

Edison-Miller Family Papers -- Miller, Theodore Westwood

Is Part Of

Edison-Miller Family Papers

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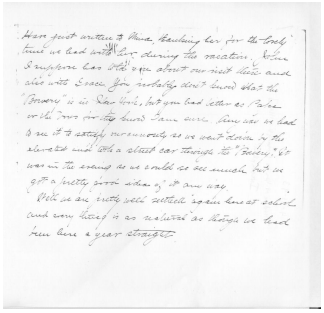

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[X104RA], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 23rd, 1893

Title
[X104RA], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 23rd, 1893

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Goodrich, David Marvin
- Miller, John Vincent
- Day, Wilson Miles
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Grace A
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1893-04-23

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RA

URL
https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/document/X104RA

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Timestamp
23 April 1893

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https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/iiif/2/X104RA/manifest

Have just written to Mina, thanking her for the lovely time we had with her during the vacation. John I suppose has told you about our visit there and also with Grace. You probably don't know what the "Bowery" is in New York, but you had better go & see it for they know I am sure. Any way we had to see it to satisfy our curiosity so we went down by the elevated and took a street car through the "Bowery." It was in the evening so we could so see much but we got a pretty good idea of it any way.

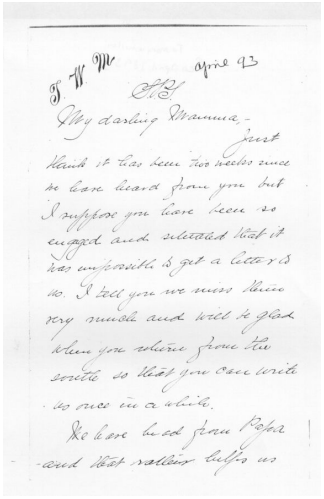
Well we are pretty well settled again here at school and every thing is as natural as though we had been here a year straight.

Well Mamma I must
close for I have to write
some other letters for
when we returned we
found seven letters awaiting
us & he answered so I
must share my time.
Will start to write regularly
now so you can expect
a letter from me about
every Tuesday.

Love to all from both.

Your loving son
Theodore.

Apr. 23
/98.



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[X104RB], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 1893

Title
[X104RB], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 1893

Editor's Notes
Supplied year and month

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Young Men's Christian Assn
- Miller, John Vincent
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Alexander, Lucy Ann, (Mrs John E. Hunter)

Date
1893-04-00

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RB

URL
https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/document/X104RB

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Timestamp
1 April 1893

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https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/iiif/2/X104RB/manifest

J. W. M. April 93

O. H. Z.

My darling Mamma, -

Just think it has been two weeks since we have heard from you but I suppose you have been so engaged and situated that it was impossible to get a letter to us. I tell you we miss them very much and will be glad when you return from the country so that you can write us once in a while.

We have had from Papa - and that rather helps us

to overlook this neglect on your part.

We have fine warm (not) weather for the last few days and the bees and grass have come out like weeds in the last day. You can almost see the things grow.

Yesterday two fellows from Yale came out to the school the one left here last year and is a very popular fellow at Yale and was in the 01 Last year and the other is a graduate of Yale but is some way interested there yet.

They came up to talk to the fellows about the Y. M. C. A. work at Yale and to give them some pointers about what to do and how to act when we get to Yale.

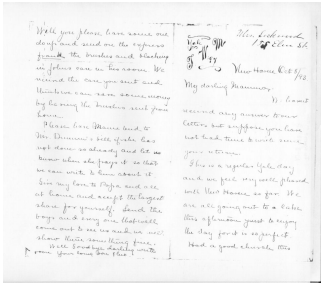
We met them right after the missionary society meeting and gave some very very good speeches and were very much appreciated by the boys.

The race comes off in about ten days and I am commencing to be very much excited about it. It is a great

Hoping to win and every
body is interested in it.
I will darling Nero goes
the hill so I must close
hoping you will pardon
this terribly written letter
and believe that I minds
of you all the more,

Your loving son
Theodore

Love to Mamma and Aunt
Lucy.



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[X104RC], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, October 8th, 1893

Title
[X104RC], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, October 8th, 1893

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Miller, John Vincent
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Alexander, Hugh Milton

Date
1893-10-08

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RC

URL
https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/document/X104RC

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Timestamp
8 October 1893

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Will you please have some one dough and send on the express ~~frank~~ the brushes and blacking in Johns case in his room. We recind the case you sent and think we can save some money by having the brushes sent from home.

Please have Maine lend to Mrs. Drumm's bill if she has not done so already and let us know when she pays it so that we can write to him about it.

Give my love to Papa and all at home and accept the largest share for yourself. Send the boys and every one that will come out to see us and we will show them some thing fine.

Well Goodbye darling write soon Your loving son Leo.

Mrs. Lockwood
157 Elm St.

Yale
Wigwam

New Haven Oct 8/93.

My darling Mamma,-

We have not received any answer to our letters but suppose you have not had time to write since your return.

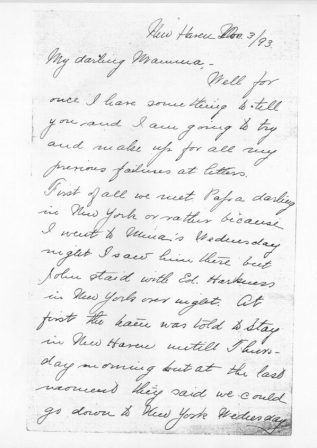
This is a regular Yale day and we feel very well pleased with New Haven so far. We are all going out to a lake this afternoon just to enjoy the day for it is so perfect.

Had a good chuseh this

but had to go to the College Chapel for we haven't received our request from Papa!!! to be allowed to go to the Methodist Church. We attended church there last Sunday and liked it very much and met one of the old gentlemen that knows Papa again this morning on the street, he recognized us and talk for a while about the sermon etc and urged us to come next Sunday. We feel more at home in our own church some way.

Heard a lovely letter from Mina Yesterday and were glad to hear from some of our family for it is a rare treat for us. We miss your letters very much and will be mighty glad when you commence to write regularly again.

I suppose you had a lovely time out West and had a good visit with Uncle Milton. I hope you did not get too tired with the trip and will feel able to come out east to see Mina and be sure to come and see us down at New Haven.



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[X104RD], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, December 3rd, 1893

Title
[X104RD], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, December 3rd, 1893

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- Julia (Cook)
- Miller, John Vincent
- Edison, Thomas Alva, Jr
- Miller, Lewis
- Edison, William Leslie
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1893-12-03

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RD

URL
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Timestamp
3 December 1893

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New Haven Dec. 3/93.

My darling Mamma, -

Well for once I have something to tell you and I am going to try and make up for all my previous failures at letters.

First of all we met Papa darling in New York or rather because I went to Mina's Wednesday night I saw him there but John staid with Ed. Harkness in New York over night. At first the boys was told to stay in New Haven until Thursday morning but at the last moment they said we could go down to New York Wednesday

John had stopped foot ball so Ed. and he had made plans for Wednesday night and I was left out in the cold so went to Mina's and was very agreeably surprized to find Papa there. He has not been here at New Haven at all so you can imagine how glad we were to see him.

We all went into New York next day to the Thanksgiving game except Papa and Mr. E. Father had to attend to some business and Mr. E. did not care to go which is not very surprizing since it was a college game.

We had a most glorious time with Mina and Ed. Harkness and I took his niece to the game and John went with Mina and Thomas and William but we all met at the game and sat together and after the game we met father at the Waldorf for a grand Thanksgiving dinner. Every thing went on finely and we had a grand time.

John staid over night with Mina at Orange and I had to go back to New Haven that night on account of foot ball.

Father seemed pretty badly worried but did his best to seem happy and we tried to cheer him as

much as possible.
My I hope he will pull through alright, dear old man, it would be terrible for him to lose all now after working all his life so hard. But then there would be no disgrace to him for he personally is out of debt, but it would be sad to see him loose what he has.
We will save as much as possible and will come home with the intention of having a good time without money. You need not get anything for us nor worry about sleeping rooms or anything just us just where is most convenient for you and our visit at home and being with you people then will pay for all the

the trouble we will have coming home.
We must for once have a Christmas which we have often talked about but never had, one without presents and make up for them with a good cheerful time.
Well, now I must thank you for those lovely pies which arrived alright Saturday morning in fine condition and seemingly a good deal better than usual. Ah! But they were slick! And how the fellows got away with them. They all or were dead stuck on them and join in thanking you for sending them.

You must thank Julia for us and tell her I will write if I possibly can.

Our Freshman foot ball game with Harvard is over and we won with a score of 30 – 4. I say we but alas! I did not get a chance to play. I have been on the team until this game but on this game they take the men from the varsity eleven who are freshman and there was only one but he played my position and so cut me out. I was first substitute and got a fine foot-ball suit the same as the

regular eleven which I will show you some time.

We had lots of fun out of the team and the whole foot ball season and feel very well satisfied with it.

There is so much to tell about it that I must put it off until I come home Christmas.

You are a great one and that is a fine trick to address a letter to me and when I open it find it written to John. But then we both read each others letters and it makes very little difference to whom they are addressed.

Everything is fine and we hope to be home probably two days before Christmas. Will let you know exactly later.

Oh! how near it is getting to be how fine it seems to think of being home again with all you people.

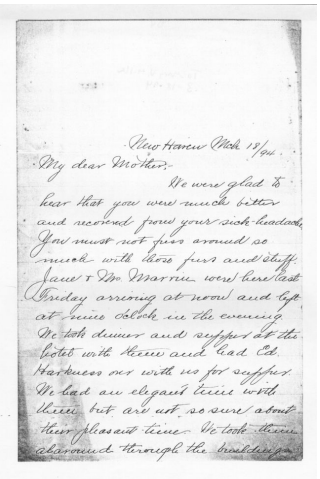
Well I am afraid this is getting rather fatiguing for you but some way or other I feel like writing today and surely have done it.

Goodbye darling.

With ever so much love

I remain

Your loving Theodore.



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[X104RE], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, March 18th, 1894

Title
[X104RE], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, March 18th, 1894

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Harkness, Edward Stephen
- Miller, John Vincent
- Edison, Marion Estelle
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Grace A
- Marvin, Richard Pratt
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1894-03-18

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Travel (TAE and family)

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RE

URL
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Timestamp
18 March 1894

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New Haven Mich 18/94.

My dear Mother,-

We were glad to hear that you were much better and recovered from your sick-headache. You must not fuss around so much with those furs and stuff. Jane & Mr. Morrill were here last Friday arriving at noon and left at nine o'clock in the evening. We took dinner and supper at the hotel with them and had Ed. Harkness over with us for supper. We had an elegant time with them but are not so sure about their pleasant time. We took them around through the buildings

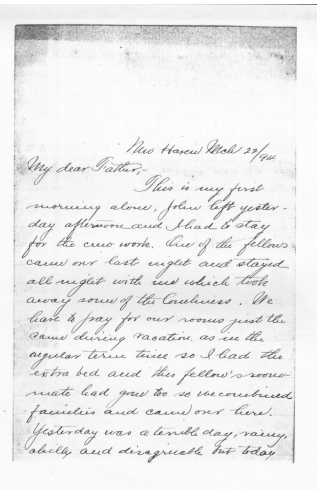
and places of interest. The crew had to row at four oclock so I did not have as much time with them as I wanted. In the evening Mr. Fred. Perkins came to call and we had a few minutes of pleasant conversation with him. They met another of our friends here one of the Koontzes and Jane discovered that she went over on the same steamer with their sister about four years ago. Hannah probably remembers her too, but I guess I am mistaken for it must have been when Jane went over with Marion. That reminds me, Isn't it funny about Marion's going to Europe it must have been quite a sudden conclusion. It is probably just as well and it would be better if she should stay over there. She seems to treat Anna very shabbily. John leaves me next Wed.

for Mina's and I probably shall stay
until Sunday and then only for
two days. They are pretty hard on us
and I feel almost like giving it up.
But it makes a fellow feel so much
better and makes him strong men-
tally as well physically for I can
study just about twice as well while
I am doing something of that kind.
Jane said Grace was well and had
been in to Matinees and theaters in
Boston for three days solid while they
were there. I guess she will survive
all right and I hope will come
down to Mina's. We expect to have
a jolly time with her and Mina
and I only wish I could be there

the whole vacation. Well Mother I must close for I have some studying to do today although it is Sunday for I have two examinations tomorrow morning. Well good bye darling write to me here during the vacation for I will be here until Sunday I think.

Your loving Son
Theodore.

P.S. Give my love to all at home and scare up those pies we had our hopes aroused and then did not receive any.
Theodore.



New Haven Mch 22/94

My dear Father,

This is my first morning alone, John left yesterday afternoon and I had to stay for the crew work. One of the fellows came over last night and stayed all night with me which took away some of the loneliness. We have to pay for our rooms just the same during vacation, as in the regular term time so I had the extra bed and the fellow's room-mate had gone so we combined families and came over here. Yesterday was a lovely day, sunny, balmy and disagreeable but today

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[X104RF], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Lewis Miller, March 22nd, 1894

Title
[X104RF], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Lewis Miller, March 22nd, 1894

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Miller, John Vincent
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Grace A

Date
1894-03-22

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RF

URL
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22 March 1894

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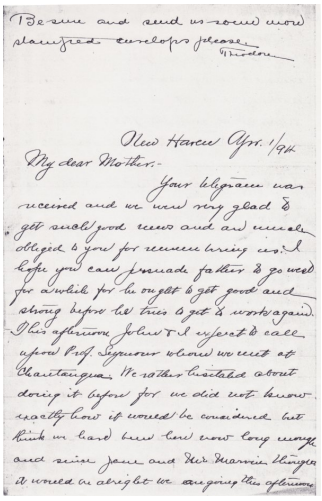
New Haven Mch 22/94

My dear Father,-

This is my first morning alone, John left yesterday afternoon and I had to stay for the crew work. One of the fellows came over last night and stayed all night with me which took away some of the Loneliness. We have to pray for our rooms just the same during vacation as in the regular term time so I had the extra bed and this fellow's roommate had gone too so we combined families and came over here. Yesterday was a terrible day, rainy, chilly and disagreable but today

it has brightened up and is very pleasant. We have to row in the morning about ten o'clock and in the afternoon too so you see they mean to have us work. Training table started last Monday morning and I was lucky enough to be taken so I am a little repaid for my trouble any way for they feed you mighty well there. John has by this time met Grace at the Fall River Boat Landing and are probably eating breakfast in New York. Jane is stopping at the victoria and Grace and John will probably go there. How I did hate to see John leave and poor I had to stay here and miss almost all the sport. But there is a rumor around that they are going to allow us to leave Friday night and return Monday night. Nothing definite though. Well I must close with lots of love to all

Hoping you will keep up your former good work and write often I remain, Your loving son & brother



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[X104RF1], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 1st, 1894

Title
[X104RF1], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 1st, 1894

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Chautauqua Institution
- Miller, John Vincent
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Marvin, Richard Pratt
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1894-04-01

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Celebrations (anniversaries, birthdays, holidays)
- Travel
- Health and medicine

Folder ID
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Document ID
X104RF1

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1 April 1894

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Be sure and send us some more stamped envelops please.

Theodore

New Haven Apr. 1/94

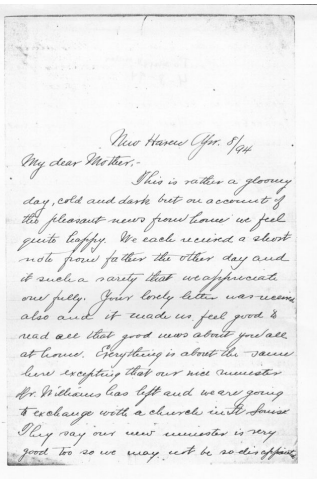
My dear Mother.-

Your telegram was received and we were very glad to get such good news and and were obliged to you for remembering us. I hope you can persuade father to go west for a while for he ought to get good and strong before he tries to get to work again. This afternoon John & I expect to call upon Prof. Seymour whom we met at Chautauqua. We rather hesitated about doing it before for we did not know exactly how it would be considered but think we have been here now long enough and since Jane and Mr Warren thought it would be alright we are going this afternoon

The seniors wore their caps and gowns this morning for the first time and it seemed very funny to see them all walking about the streets with their gowns flying about and the flat-topped hats.
It seems that neither of us have told you about the party at Alma's and I think probably you would like to know what kind of a thing an Easter party is. I told you we had Herman Kreutz out with us and before the people came we sat about in the drawing-room talking and all at once it occured to us that we must hide the eggs. We hurried and hid them about in the room behind vases, statuary etc. and waited for the people. The eggs were regular Easter, colored eggs and when the guests had all arrived we announced that the hunt should begin so the people began hunting eggs and the person finding most eggs received a prize both the gentleman and lady. We

collected the eggs as they were found and after the prizes were awarded for that they passed the same eggs around and each one took one. Then they had the cracking egg contest which consists of each one trying to break another's egg by striking the eggs together, the one whose egg broke first gave up his egg and so the other one went on breaking as many as he could, the person who won the most eggs from the rest and whose egg held out longest received a prize. One lady had an egg so hard that after trying all the other eggs and winning them all she had to break it upon the table top. We had great sport fooling with the eggs and every one seemed to enjoy it immensely.

We expected to have supper at the front but there was an unexpected delay in preparing it so we had a few dances until it was announced. It was a fine supper and as usual I did it justice. Irene and I took our partners to the same little table which seated only four so we were alone and had a fine time. The time flew by so rapidly that it was almost time to go after supper but they danced a little and then left. Irma had expected to have all the dancing after supper but it turned out alright as it was only I was cheated out of one dance. As a whole it was simply "swell" and we all had a glorious time. My how I hated to leave but it is all over now and here we are back at College hard at work looking forward to the next one. Well I must close with lots of love to all at home and a great deal for you and Father, Yours loving and affectionate



New Haven Apr. 8/94

My dear Mother.-

This is rather a gloomy day, cold and dark but on account of the pleasant news from home we feel quite happy. We each received a short note from father the other day and it such a variety that we appreciate one fully. Your lovely letter was welcome also and it made us feel good to read all that good news about you all at home. Everything is about the same here excepting that our nice minister Mr. Williams has left and we are going to exchange with a church in St. Louis. They say our new minister is very good so we may not be so disappoint

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[X104RG], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 8th, 1894

Title
[X104RG], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 8th, 1894

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Miller, John Vincent
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Grace A
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1894-04-08

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RG

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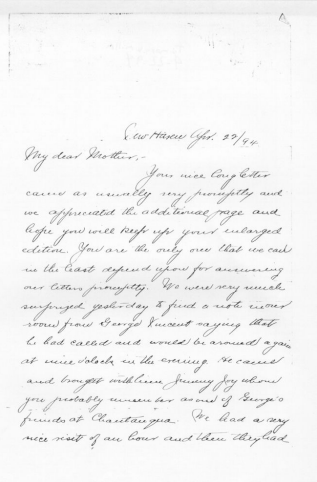
New Haven Apr. 8/94

My dear Mother,-

This is rather a gloomy day, cold and dark but on account of the pleasant news from home we feel quite happy. We each received a short note from father the other day and it such a rarety that we appreciate one fully. Your lovely letter was received also and it made us feel good to read all that good news about you all at home. Everything is about the same here excepting that our nice minister Mr. Williams has left and we are going to exchange with a church in St Louis They say our new minister is very good too so we may not be so disappointed

after all. Our studies are getting along nicely I think, and we row every afternoon on the harbor and have great old "feed" so we feel immense. John is practicing football with the spring squad and that keeps him busy during most of the afternoon. We are much obliged to you for sending those envelopes and I trust we will receive them soon. Have not heard from Grace since we left Manila, just like her, we have both written and she as usual has not answered. I think she needs a little of that "old slipper" in the bottom drawer of father's desk in the bathroom. We were very glad to hear that father expected to go to California and we hope he will have a most glorious time. My, how I would like to go with him! Well mother I guess I had better close as this is the extent of this sheet & don't know enough to fill the other. Good bye with lots of love to all Your loving son Theodore.



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[X104RH], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 22nd, 1894

Title
[X104RH], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, April 22nd, 1894

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Chautauqua Institution
- Julia (Cook)
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Vincent, John Heyl
- Marvin, Richard Pratt
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Vincent, George Edgar
- Goodrich, Charles Cross

Date
1894-04-22

Type
Letter

Subject
Edison-Miller family

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
X104RH

URL
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22 April 1894

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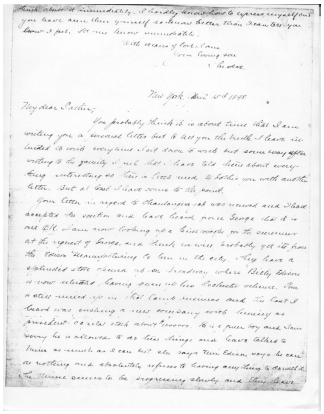
E. View House Chpt. 27/94

My dear Mother, -

Your nice long letter came as usually very promptly and we appreciated the additional page and hope you will keep up your enlarged edition. You are the only one that we can in the least depend upon for answering our letters promptly. We were very much surprised yesterday to find a note in our room from George Vincent saying that he had called and would be around again at nine o'clock in the evening. He came and brought with him Jimmy Joy whom you probably remember as one of George's friends at Chautauqua. We had a very nice visit of an hour and then they had

to Lear so we went down town & paid some of the fellows. We succeeded pretty well and had a good time. Dr. Vincent is to address the Oxford League & night in our church and we expect to call on him this afternoon. So we don't feel exactly destitute of friends although we are pretty far from home. Every thing is moving along nicely and we are having quite a good time. Give my regards to Julia and tell her I hope she has fully recovered by this time. I sincerely hope it did not knock the receipt for those mince pies out of her head. The wedding was quite a surprise for us and we were glad to get the paper. I suppose you have heard about Charles Goodrich's engagement now. That is very fine I think. I must write to Father and Hannah today so I am afraid I can't ring off. Give my love to Ed. Lee and Nick and all other friends. I will love Hannah by her own letter. Good deal of love for yourself I remain Your loving friend Theodore



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[X104RI], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Lewis Miller, April 15th, 1898

Title
[X104RI], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Lewis Miller, April 15th, 1898

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Chautauqua Institution
- Edison Manufacturing Co
- Miller, John Vincent
- Edison, Thomas Alva, Jr
- Edison, William Leslie
- McKinley, William
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Vincent, George Edgar
- Weyler, Valeriano
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1898-04-15

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- TAE opinions and prejudices
- National government (U.S.)
- Military
- Ore milling and separation

Folder ID
X104R-F

Document ID
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15 April 1898

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think about it immediately. I hardly know how to express myself but you have seen them yourself so know better than I can tell you how I feel. Let me know immediately.

With oceans of love I am
Yours Loving son
Theodore

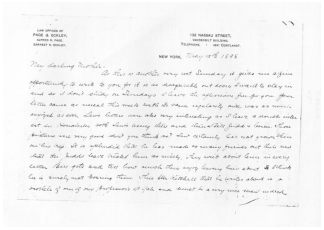
New York. April 15th 1898.

My dear Father,-

You probably think it is about time that I am writing you a personal letter but to tell you the truth I have intended to with everytime I sit down to write but some way after writing to the family I feel that I have told them about everything interesting so there is little need to bother you with another letter. But at last I have come to the point.

Your letter in regard to Chautauqua job was received and I have accepted the position and have heard from George that it is all O.K. I am now looking up a bicycle for the summer at the request of George and think we will probably get it from the Edison Manufacturing Co here in the city. They have a splendid store opened up on Broadway where Billy Edison is now situated, having given up his Rochester scheme. Tom is still mixed up in that Canada business and the last I heard was pushing a new company with Emery as president. Capital stock about $1000000. He is a queer boy and I am sorry he is allowed to do such things and have talked to him as much as I can but she says Mr Edison says he can do nothing and absolutely refuses to have anything to do with it. The time comes to be progressing slowly and they have

had some very good tests I believe. Mr Edison wants Colin to come up there this summer. Colin is doing splendidly is he not? I am delighted to hear such lucky reports from him. I am sure he decided rightly in the matter of profession for this is what he wanted to do and will enjoy it. I hope we may get together in New York some way when Colin gets a position and I don't see why we should not. The law is progressing nicely and I enjoy the work very much. It is terribly confining and gets rather monotonous by night time but I had a little change last week when I got that job which really was very fortunate as I made about $22.00 in four days and had practical experience. I am looking for an office for next year and if I can find one in which I can get paid for my work I think I shall take it although I scarcely think it the right thing as far as learning law is concerned. War! is the startling thing out here and at home too I suppose. The latest accounts show almost absolute proof of Spain's guilt in the Maine disaster and almost persuades me to believe that war is inevitable. I have maintained right along that war was impossible at this stage of civilization, for reasons thus far shown but if we can prove Spain's guilt nothing is left but war and that can come none too soon for me. Avenge the loss of life and the dishonor to our country and above all punish that scoundrel Weyler! Now, Father, if war is declared which I am afraid will happen, I mean to go on first call. Could you not get some position or exert some influence for me, with the president? I am not a member of any company here and so would have no chance unless by special appointment. I mean business and have made up my mind after due deliberation. Write me what you



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[X104RJ], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, May 15th, 1898

Title
[X104RJ], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, May 15th, 1898

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Glenmont
- Miller, John Vincent
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Miller, Lewis Alexander
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date
1898-05-15

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- National government (U.S.)
- Stocks, bonds, and investments
- Military

Folder ID
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132 NASSAU STREET,
VANDERBILT BUILDING.
TELEPHONE, - 4241 CORTLANDT.

NEW YORK, May 15th 1898

My darling Mother -

As this is another very wet Sunday it gives me a fine opportunity to write to you for it is so disagreeable out doors I want to stay in and as I don't study on Sundays I leave the afternoon free for you. Your letter came as usual this week with its same regularity and was as much enjoyed as ever. Lew's letters were also very interesting as I have a double interest in Honolulu both Lew's being there and Mina Bill Judd's home. Those pictures were very good don't you think so? Lew certainly has not grown thin on this trip. It is splendid that he has made so many friends out there and that the Judds have treated him so nicely. They write about him in every letter Bill gets and tell how much they enjoy having him about. I think he is surely not boring them. This Mr. Kitchell that he writes about is a brother of one of our Professors at Yale and must be a very nice man indeed

Bill Judd knows him and says he is "all-right."
I suppose this war news and the very great possibility
of annexation will remain him to stay longer
for Hawaii that of the Islands are annexed that
there is no better place for rapid growth and a
place with greater possibilities than Honolulu
Everything hangs in a scale now and if Lew
is there when annexation comes I should think
he could find some very good opening indeed.
It does seem hard to have him so far away
but if he can get well settled in some busi-
ness and with the social start that he has
gained for himself already I see no reason
for his not making it a pleasant home for
himself. I am a little afraid that if he once
gives in to his longing to get back to Akron
and comes as far as the coast he will be very
greatly tempted to come the rest of the way and
I really do not think Akron is the place for him.
I am going to write him this afternoon trusting
to the probability of his staying there in hopes
of annexation. Hinna wrote a very much letter
Thursday asking Bill and me to come out over
Sunday today but Bill had planned a visit
to New Haven and so I asked Hinna to allow
us to come next Sunday instead. She has not
had time to reply but I guess it will be alright
so we will probably go out next Saturday after-

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NEW YORK,

noon and spend Sunday. Nina is a darling to make Elmwood such a home for us and I am getting so I dash out there with about as much freedom as I would go home. But it hardly takes the place of dear old Oak Place and if we could only dash out to Akron as easily as to Orange I am afraid I would spend a fortune in car fare. I have not been out to Orange since the first of May and it does seem a very long time. I wrote you that day and left the letter for Nina & Grace to mail with theirs, did you not get that one? You wrote in your last letter about getting my one to Father but not yours. I merely want to let you know that I wrote you so you will not think me so negligent and thoughtless of you as your letters show. I am very sorry that I have not written more regularly but I assure my intentions have been the best and my thoughts have been with you if my letters have not managed to arrive. I suppose Father will think that my war zeal is rapidly diminishing as I do not go now that I have the letters etc, but the matter

of the Law School changed my plans completely. It took so long to get the necessary letters etc that the term had advanced so nearly the end that now it seems as though it were foolish to lose the term my going would necessitate. And as the call for volunteers was so quickly and completely answered & put the matter more on a personal basis as I felt that I had better consider my own position a little more. If it had not been for my obligation owing you all at home and the apparent disregard for all you have done for me I should leave now and would go in a minute today. But now it is only the satisfaction of my own desire to get into the scrap and I feel that I owe you too much to do it. It has been a great temptation and almost conquered me last Monday but I think I will have to give it up now. I am greatly obliged for all the trouble Father took in getting me a suit and feel very sorry that I caused you so much worry all for nothing, but now you can be the better pleased that I staid at home. I hope you understand why I did not take that clerkship here in the city. I will write father too and explain to him so that you will learn it from that.

Charlie Hemenway, Allan Hervey and

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NEW YORK,

I am keeping house alone over Sunday as Bill Judd left Friday and Bill Marsh last night for New Haven. They will be back tomorrow I think for Harrell is at camp Black with the cavalry troop. Last night Charlie and I were alone and we had a nice evening of studying. We had a quiz on law together until twelve and then had a welch rabbit before going to bed. Today when I got back from church I found Bob Eckman a man from Vermont whom I think will suit. He was in our class and one of my best friends. lived just below us in the same entry in Mitchell in two years. He is down for business so came up to the flat to see us. He is a dandy boy and we had a fine visit. He will dine with us and left shortly afterwards.

Have you ever heard anything more from Jack Pyles that man that came up to the house to see us. It was very nice I think

and I wanted to write him but did not know his address.

Well Norton darling I guess I will close for this time. Hoping this little has not been too great a strain on you, due to its poor writing and length I remain.

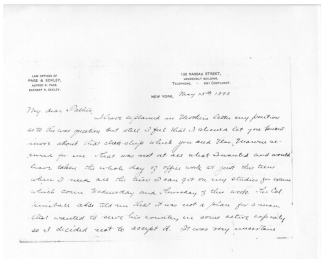
I have written John a scheme for this summer but have not heard from him as to his approval or disapproval so will wait to find out before telling you.

Good bye darling accept my love and a grand big chunck of it too. Give my love to Mama "my old pal" and have her write her long lost brother again.

I enjoyed her letter immensely. Love to Ed too and best wishes for his chicken crop and business affairs generally. He did not answer about that stock. Ask him to do so please.

Your loving son

Theodore.



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[X104RK], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Lewis Miller, May 15th, 1898

Title
[X104RK], Letter from Theodore Westwood Miller to Lewis Miller, May 15th, 1898

Author
Miller, Theodore Westwood

Recipient
Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Chautauqua Institution
- Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)
- Marvin, Richard Pratt
- Alger, Russell Alexander
- Day, William Rufus

Date
1898-05-15

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- National government (U.S.)
- Military

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TELEPHONE, - 4241 CORTLANDT.

NEW YORK, May 15th 1898

My dear Pallie,

I have explained in Mother's letter my position as to the war question but still I feel that I should let you know more about that clerk-ship which you and Van Warren secured for me. That was not at all what I wanted and would have taken the whole day of office work at just this time when I need all the time I can get on my studies for exams. which come Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The Col. Kimball also told me that it was not a place for a man that wanted to serve his country in some active capacity so I decided not to accept it. It was very uncertain

as to its duration and depended entirely on the war. The pay for the summer would not have been as good as I could get at Chautauqua and as for next year I hope to get into some office of law where I can get some money and legal work too. I hope you do not feel that I did wrongly in refusing it. I will hold that letter from Sec. Clay and if after the term ends (2nd of June) there is a second call or a change of affairs that requires more forces and there is any necessity of my going I think I shall go. But for the present I mean to wait until the term work is over and see what happens then. Did you get a letter or any word from Sec. Alger? I may need it so please let me know. This is merely to explain the Lawler matter affair so please accept mother's letter as part yours.

Lovingly Theodore.